

a²

[0047] Over the compressible layer 16 after grinding may be deposited, for example by a liquid applicator device, a reinforcing layer 14 (Fig. 2). The durometer of the reinforcing layer, which also may be urethane, preferably is greater than 70 shore A, and preferably about 70 shore D.

a³

[0052] As used herein, the term print layer, or printing layer refers to a polymeric material such as urethane which is suitable for transferring an image from a lithographic printing plate or other image carrier to web or sheet of material, with such print quality as the particular printing application requires.

[0053] Although the preferred embodiments of the printing blanket in accordance with the present invention have been illustrated herein as including a compressible layer, a reinforcing layer, and a print layer, it should be understood that the sleeve is not necessarily part of the blanket.

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 18 and 20 without prejudice.

a⁴

1. (Amended) A device for manufacturing a printing blanket comprising:
a continuously axially-moving base sleeve;
a liquid applicator applying a radiation-curing polymer to the base sleeve; and
a radiation source curing the radiation-curing polymer.

a⁵

3. (Amended) The device as recited in claim 1 further comprising a second liquid applicator applying a second polymer over the radiation-curing polymer.

a⁶

10. (Amended) A method for forming a tubular printing blanket comprising the steps of:
placing a radiation-curable polymer over a continuously axially-moving base so as to form a layer of a printing blanket; and
curing the radiation-curable polymer using a radiation source.

